As parents of two young children, ages 2 and 4, we strongly oppose SB 738, SB 457 and SB 874 and any other bill that opens the door to forced regionalization of Connecticut public schools. We chose to move to Wilton, CT 4 years ago when we started our family. Our number one reason for moving here was for the strong school system! While looking at houses, we fell in love with the small town feel, welcoming people and sense of community. Every single person that we spoke to during the home buying process referenced the excellent school system. We have family in New York and Massachusetts and chose to split the difference and live in CT despite the high taxes. While this was difficult for us initially, after 4 years of residing here, we are happy with the community we have chosen and the friends we have made for both ourselves and our children. Please don't take this away from us! While our children have not entered the public school system yet, we are only 2 years away. These bills on forced regionalization have us terrified! While there is mention of improving efficiency in the education system, there is no mention of how these bills will affect the quality of education our children will receive. Forced school regionalization will make us reconsider whether CT was the right choice for us. We want to live in a town (and state for that matter) in which there is local control over the public schools.

We hope you will oppose SB 738, SB 457 and SB 874 and any other legislation that opens the door to forced regionalization of Connecticut public schools.

Sincerely, Brian and Maria Sullivan Wilton, CT